



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY



Public Hearing – February 10, 2009
Public Safety and Security Committee

Testimony Submitted by:

Commissioner James M. Thomas
Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in support of SB 787- AAC the International Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

This bill, along with Senate Joint Resolution 13 of the 110th Congress, authorizes Connecticut's membership in the International Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

This bill would provide for the possibility of mutual assistance among the jurisdictions entering into this compact, which include the New England States and the Eastern Provinces of Canada, in managing any emergency or disaster when the affected jurisdiction or jurisdictions ask for assistance. Participating jurisdictions are not required to assist, but can provide resources if able to.

This bill would also provide the most effective utilization of resources of the participating jurisdictions that are essential to the safety, care and welfare of the public in the event of any emergency or disaster declared by a party jurisdiction.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of this bill.